

What is claimed is:

1. A device for determining the required length of a middle ear prosthesis, having a disk-shaped base part (10; 20; 30) to which prosthesis mockups (11, 11', 11''; 21, 21', 21''; 31, 31', 31'') of different lengths are fastened, which, after being detached from the base part (10; 20; 30), can be inserted by means of an applicator into the middle ear of a patient during an operation for length determination purposes,  
wherein the base part (10; 20; 30) is provided with accessories for measuring  
and/or shaping the middle ear prosthesis to be inserted.
2. The device as recited in claim 1,  
wherein the accessories include one or more recesses (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) provided on the top and/or bottom side of the disk-shaped base part (10; 20; 30), which have an inner diameter that corresponds to the outer diameter of a head plate (51) of the middle ear prosthesis to be inserted.
3. The device as recited in claim 2,  
wherein under each recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32), a cavity (13, 13'; 13''; 23; 33) is provided that extends into the base part (10; 20; 30) and is used in particular to accommodate a bell (53), which is mounted under the head plate (51) of the middle ear prosthesis and is used to attach the middle ear prosthesis to the stapes of the middle ear, or serves to accommodate a strut, which is mounted under the head plate (51) of the middle ear prosthesis and is used to support the middle ear prosthesis on the stapedial footplate of the middle ear.
4. The device as recited in one of claims 2 or 3,  
wherein the contour of the inner diameter of the recesses (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) partially corresponds to the outer contour of the head plate (51) of the middle ear

prosthesis but in at least one section (14, 14', 14''); 24; 34), is widened radially outward in comparison to the maximum outer diameter of the head plate (51).

5. The device as recited in one of claims 2 through 4,

5 wherein the base part (10; 20; 30) is provided with a number of recesses (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) preferably distributed over the circumference of the base part (10; 20; 30), which recesses (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) correspond to the outer diameters of head plates (51) of middle ear prostheses and are of different depths.

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6. The device as recited in claim 5,

wherein the base part (10; 20; 30) is provided with a mark or label (15, 15', 15'') next to each recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32), which correlates to the respective depth of the corresponding recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) and length of the head plate (51) that can be accommodated therein and/or to the size of the inner diameter of the corresponding recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) and outer diameter of the head plate (51) and/or to the shape of the recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) and head plate (51).

20 7. The device as recited in one of the preceding claims,

wherein the accessories include at least one conical protrusion (26; 36) with a preferably rounded tip that protrudes from one side of the base part (20; 30), is preferably situated in a hollow (27; 37), and is used to widen the inner diameter of a bell (53), which is mounted under the head plate (51) of the middle ear prosthesis and is used to attach the middle ear prosthesis to the stapes of the middle ear.

25 8. The device as recited in claim 7 and one of claims 2 through 6,

wherein the conical protrusion (26; 36) is situated on the same side of the disk-shaped base part (20; 30) as the recess(es) (22; 32) for accommodating the head plate (51) of a middle ear prosthesis.

5     9.     The device as recited in one of the preceding claims,  
wherein the accessories include at least one, preferably several hollows (42, 42')  
in the base part (10; 20; 30), which are designed for accommodating and  
possibly measuring and/or shaping a cartilage or fascia disk that serves as an  
insert between the middle ear prosthesis and the eardrum in order to  
10    mechanically protect the latter.

10.    The device as recited in claim 11,  
wherein the hollows (42, 42') for accommodating cartilage or fascia disks have a  
round or oval contour.

15           11.    The device as recited in one of claims 9 or 10,  
wherein the base part (10; 20; 30) is provided with a number of hollows (42, 42')  
with different sized inner diameters and/or different depths.

20           12.    The device as recited in one of the preceding claims,  
wherein the accessories include at least one essentially flat preparation area (41)  
on at least one side of the disk-shaped base part (10; 20; 30).

25           13.    The device as recited in claim 12,  
wherein at least one location of the preparation area (41) is provided with a  
length scale (43) on the surface of the base part (10; 20; 30), preferably  
calibrated in millimeters.

30           14.    The device as recited in one of claims 9 through 11 and one of claims 12  
or 13,

wherein the hollows (42, 42') for accommodating cartilage or fascia disks are situated in the preparation area (41).

15. The device as recited in one of claims 1 through 8 and one of claims 9

5 through 14,

wherein the recesses (12, 12', 12''); 22; 32) for accommodating the head plate (51) of a middle ear prosthesis on the one hand and the preparation area (41) and possibly one or more hollows (42, 42') for accommodating cartilage or fascia disks on the other hand are situated on two different, preferably opposing, sides  
10 of the disk-shaped base part (10; 20; 30).

16. The device as recited in one of the preceding claims,

wherein the prosthesis mockups (11, 11', 11''); 21, 21', 21''); 31, 31', 31'') are attached to bridge pieces and distributed like satellites around the outer  
15 circumference of the disk-shaped base part (10; 20; 30).

17. The device as recited in claim 16,

wherein protective projections (38), in particular rod-shaped ones, situated between each pair of prosthesis mockups (31, 31', 31'') are distributed over the  
20 circumference of the disk-shaped base part (30) and protrude beyond the prosthesis mockups (31, 31', 31'') in the radial direction.

18. The device as recited in claims 16 and 17,

wherein the disk-shaped base part (30) has a polygonal, in particular hexagonal or octagonal, outer circumference and the protective projections (38) protrude outward in the radial direction from the vertices of the base part (30).  
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19. The device as recited in one of the preceding claims,

wherein the prosthesis mockups (11, 11', 11''; 21, 21', 21''; 31, 31', 31'') are of different sizes, in particular different lengths.

20. The device as recited in claims 5 and 19,

5 wherein the prosthesis mockups (11, 11', 11''; 21, 21', 21''; 31, 31', 31'') are situated on the outer circumference of the base part (10; 20; 30), each in the radial vicinity of a recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) for accommodating the head plate (51) of a middle ear prosthesis and the size of the recess (12, 12', 12''; 22; 32) corresponds to the size of the prosthesis mockup respectively adjacent to it.

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21. The device as recited in one of claims 16 through 20,

wherein the base part (10; 20; 30), the bridge pieces, and the prosthesis mockups (11, 11', 11''; 21, 21', 21''; 31, 31', 31'') are injection molded out of plastic and are preferably integrally joined to one another.